Amendements to the Specificiation:

Please amend the paragraph from page 15 lines 1-12 of the specfication, as follows:

The nickel and nickel-oxide comprising particles and the zirconia comprising particles can then be mixed or agglomerated by spray drying or other suitable means to provide a generally freely flowing plasma spray feed powder. If too little nickel or too much zirconia is used, the fuel electrode tends to ~~exhibits~~ exhibit poor electrical conductivity; whereas, if too much nickel or too little zirconia is used, then the fuel electrode tends to exhibit poor adherence or thermal cyclablity. It has been found that a ratio of about 60% to about 85% nickel to about 40% to about 15% zirconia is suitable, without regard to optional dopants or additives, and preferably about 70% to about 80% nickel to about 30% to about 20% zirconia. The feed powder preferably has a particle size and configuration to assist a uniform flow, provide consistent flow to the plasma spray gun, and provide a more homogenous applied microstructure. Dopants or additives can be incorporated into or with the cermet feed powder.

Please amend the paragraph from page 15 line 15 – page 16 line 8 of the specfication, as follows:

Referring to Figure 4, a micrograph of a plasma sprayed fuel electrode 16 deposited onto an underlying EVD electrolyte 14 is shown. Another zirconia "skeleton" 26 is formed within and around the matrix of nickel particles 28 is readily seen. In this embodiment, a thin precursor layer 30 comprising zirconia (e.g. zirconia stabilized by about 6% to about 12% yttria and/or other rare earth elements, and optionally doped with $TiO_2$, $Ce0_2$, or other dopants) is applied onto the electrolyte 16 by a plasma spray process to ~~provides~~ provide a surface texture that is

generally more porous and rougher than the underlying electrolyte 16. The precursor layer 30 assists in the subsequent deposition and adhesion of the fuel electrode 18. Use of the precursor layer 30 has been found particularly advantageous if the electrolyte 16 is applied by an EVD process, since an EVD electrolyte 16 tends to be very smooth. Thus, the relatively rougher and more thermally compliant precursor layer 30 tends to provides a better underlying surface for the fuel electrode 18 to adhere. If used, the precursor layer 30 advantageously has a thickness of about 1 micron to about 80 microns, preferably about 5 microns to about 20 microns. Additionally, if a copper comprising (rather than nickel comprising) cermet fuel electrode 18 is used, the precursor layer 30 additionally inhibits the copper from penetrating into the air electrode 14 and thereby short-circuiting the fuel cell 10.